



Washington

LABOR MARKET



Washington State
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Highlights

Right On Course

The worst may be over. Major national indicators turned positive again in May, bolstering the view that the recession has possibly bottomed out and a recovery is finally under-way. Retail sales are up, the housing market is strengthening, and factory orders are building once again. Preliminary estimates of second quarter real GNP - the inflation-adjusted measure of the nation's total output of goods and services - showed a 0.4 percent annual rate of *increase* for the April-to-June period following *declines* of 2.8 percent in the first quarter and 1.6 percent in the fourth quarter of 1990. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, employers nationally added workers in May for the first time in 11 months. And consumer borrowing has picked up after repeatedly falling off since the end of last year.

Skeptics are taking a "wait and see" attitude. Four of the past eight postwar recessions experienced what amounted to a double dip in the growth rate before a protracted upturn occurred. Many of the factors which gave rise to the recession are still very much alive. These include higher tax loads for individuals and business, tightened bank regulatory standards, high debt levels, and overbuilding of both commercial and residential real estate throughout many parts of the country. Moreover, the acute federal budget deficit rules out any counter-cyclical fiscal stimulus coming out of the "other Washington" this time around.

If the timing does prove to be 11 months from last August, the duration of the downturn would be precisely as forecast. Most economists looked to a fairly average recession in terms of length but a relatively mild one in terms of overall impact. To a great extent, this was exactly what happened. However, not all areas were treated alike. The Northeast and portions of the Mid-Atlantic states were hit hard while the Pacific Northwest and the North Central region were left largely unscathed. From this juncture, the likelihood is a rather tepid recovery at best. It could well be early 1992 before a sense of recovery is clearly visible throughout most areas of the economy.

Washington Proceeds To Slow

Slow or not, timing could not be more fortunate for Washington State. Job growth has progressively eased since the beginning of the year. Seasonally-adjusted wage and salary employment fell 16,000 from February to May after climbing 41,000 in the previous six months. And the year-to-year job gain has narrowed from 102,000 on average for 1990 to 40,500 by the fifth month of 1991.

The Office of the Forecast Council is looking to slightly less than normal seasonal payroll expansion of the economy in the second and third quarters before a pickup in the fourth quarter of this year. Much depends upon an improving national setting over the same time frame and comparable state-to-national pickup in the big job sectors of manufacturing, trade, and services. Given that Washington performance to date has only slowed - not slipped into recession -

an upturn coincident with the nation as a whole late in the year will move the state forward into 1992 with no stigma of any measurable economic loss.

Less Than Seasonal Surge In May

Washington's nonfarm wage and salary employment heightened by 13,200 workers in May to 2,195,600. Gains over the month were typically broad-based as weather-related industries expanded toward their seasonal highs. The uptick, however, proved lighter than posted in recent years. The period from 1984 through 1990 saw an average increase for May of roughly 22,000. Certainly weather, being wetter and cooler than usual, played a part in toning down the monthly advance. But the overriding factor was simply a slower regional economy.

In particular, the pace of construction has eased. Payrolls in both housing and nonresidential building were running less than a year ago in May for the first time since the fourth quarter of 1982. Only public works and special trades contractors continued to show positive year-to-year gains. Much of the former is tied to ongoing major highway projects and the latter reflects further strength in household repair and remodeling coming predominantly as a backlash to the runup in Seattle-area housing prices in the late-1980s. Construction employment inched up by 1,600 workers in May rather than 4,000 as was the case since 1985.

Like Pattern In Services

Momentum in services and trade also lightened up. Retailing rose 3,000 over the month and stood even with a year before. As near as last January, the sector showed a year-to-year spread of more than 10,000. Department stores added no new employment in May. Additions over the month centered principally at food stores (+1,000) and eating and drinking establishments (+1,200). Start of major landscaping and yard work boosted building materials and garden supplies by 600. But apparel and accessories fell by 200.

Growth of services essentially paced the economy throughout much of the current upturn. The services sector comprises little less than a quarter of the state's nonfarm wage

and salary employment base but accounted for fully a third of Washington's net job gain in the past seven years. It garnered a four percentage point greater share of the total economy over that time period. And with greater resiliency than evidenced elsewhere in the economy, managed to continue generating half the state's job growth in the twelve months ending in May.

Nonetheless, services peaked in February on a seasonally adjusted basis and dropped by 5,500 workers in the past three months. The May increase of 1,600 contrasted sharply with 5,300 in the like period of 1988-90 with additions noticeably lighter in business services (+700) and health services (+400) among others. The drop in personal services (-500) was fairly normal for the month, largely reflected a pullback in accounting services after the rush for federal income tax filing passed.

Manufacturing Posts Little Change

Manufacturing, correspondingly, gained 1,100 jobs in May purely on the strength of seasonal expansion in lumber and wood products (+300) and food processing (+800). The rest of the principal export sector stayed basically unchanged. Aerospace was flat for the fifth consecutive month having stabilized at roughly 116,000 since January after peaking at 118,700 a year before. Relative stability of this large industrial sector has done much to undergird the overall state economy in 1991.

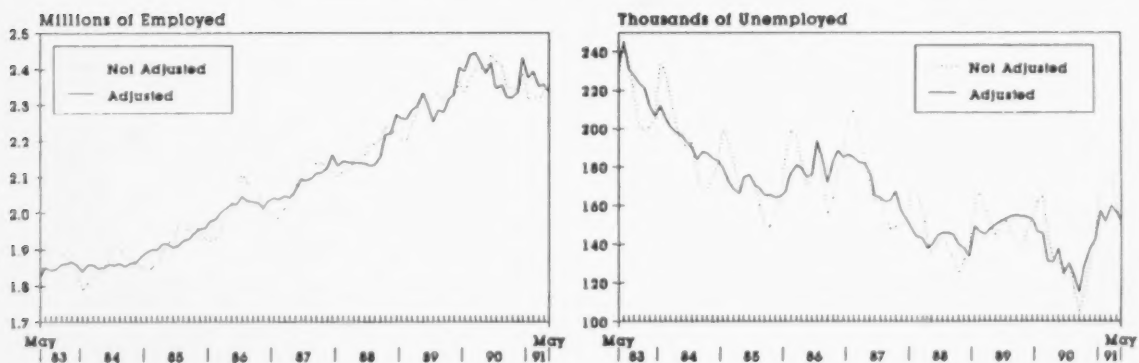
Movements outside the forest products, aerospace, and food processing sectors have been minor. Gains in industrial machinery (+100), fabricated metals (+100), and printing and publishing (+100) were offset in May by losses in electronics (-100), instruments (-100), and paper and allied products (-200). This kind of "give and take" shows no perceptible trend other than a general holding pattern. And, except for a single plant closure in both instruments and primary metals, the over-the-year change for diversified manufacturing looks very much the same.

Looking At a Longer Time Frame

Over the year, Washington's nonfarm wage and salary employment has risen by 40,500 workers. The annual margin has progressively eased since the start of the year. But even reduced, the amount of job growth in the 12-months ending in May still measured the second largest of any state in the nation. Only Texas was higher at 76,000. On the other hand, 23 of the 50 states are currently negative, including California.

Half of Washington's year-to-year job gain has centered in services (+22,500) and further in business services (+2,900), social services (+2,500) and health (+8,700) specifically. Another third of the increase has come in local government (+14,300) split roughly 60/30 between K-12 public education and city-county administration. Construction has flattened out to only an 800-workers margin in May. And manufacturing is off by 5,100 mostly due to weakness in lumber and wood products (-2,300) and transportation equipment other than aerospace (-2,100).

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment May 1983 - May 1991



Source: Employment Security Department

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in Washington State dropped in May with the advent of better weather. The statewide unemployment rate fell over the month by close to half a percentage point from 6.3 percent to 5.9 percent of the workforce. Greater ac-

tivity in agriculture, construction, trade, and services all sparked the seasonal uptick in the economy despite somewhat cooler and wetter weather than normal. A slower economy than a year ago, however, succeeded in pushing unemployment above the prior-year low of 4.5 percent. But not as high as the national average at 6.6 percent for May.

Washington's unemployment rate has consistently tracked below the national average ever since March of last year. At that time, the national economy was trooping steadily into recession which officially began sometime in July. The state, in contrast, continued to pile up job growth (albeit at a slower pace) in a setting of increasingly tight labor markets throughout most of the year. Given the diametrically different trends occurring, it is no wonder that the state moved to outperform the nation not only in terms of job growth but jobless patterns as well.

State-to-national differences have converged in 1991. Jobless rates for the state tracked better than a full percentage point below the nation as a whole in the third quarter of last year. The two came into unison in the first quarter of this year and then separated again to roughly half a percentage point spread in May. The outlook for the months ahead is a fairly typical seasonal pattern with some added upward pressure on unemployment as job growth in the state proceeds to slow.

Resident Civilian Labor Force Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	May 1991 <i>Preliminary</i>	Apr 1991 <i>Revised</i>	May 1990
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,490,900	2,501,100	2,495,900
Employment	2,343,800	2,342,300	2,383,400
Unemployment	147,100	158,800	112,500
Unemployment Rate	5.9%	6.3%	4.5%
National Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.5%	5.1%

Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: Employment Security Department; Bureau of Labor Statistics

AREA TRENDS

Urban Areas Pull In Tandem

Unemployment in Washington's metropolitan areas dropped from 5.8 percent to 5.5 percent of the workforce on average in May. The decline reflected normal seasonal heightening in services and trade which brought overall joblessness down uniformly in the Seattle PMSA (4.6 percent), Spokane MSA (5.6 percent), and Tacoma PMSA (6.4 percent) over the month. Greater farm activity drew area joblessness down sharply in Yakima (from 12.8 percent to 10.7 percent) and the Franklin County portion of the Tri-Cities (from 12.4 percent to 9.2 percent). But all areas registered higher than a year ago by an average of roughly one-and-a-half percentage points.

Balance of State Diverges Sharply

Meanwhile, the resource-based economies of eastern and western Washington lowered unemployment in May more dramatically than the state as a whole. Seasonal swings are sharper in these economies than the more diversified urban areas. And initial entry into spring promptly moves business activity forward. Unemployment in agriculture-dominant eastern Washington dropped more than a full percentage point in May from 8.8 percent to 7.7 percent of the area workforce. At the same time, the timber-dependent counties of western Washington saw a comparable easing from an average of 9.7 percent to 8.8 percent. Wide disparities of conditions exist in the outlying areas, and product movement of both forest and field is destined to be constrained by shorter supplies in 1991.

Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas
State of Washington

Areas	May 1991	Apr 1991	May 1990
Washington State Total	5.9	6.3	4.5
Metropolitan Areas	5.5	5.8	4.1
Log & Lumber Areas	8.8	9.7	6.8
All Western WA Areas	5.4	5.7	4.0
All Eastern WA Areas	7.7	8.8	6.5

Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

Boeing Hangs In There

Despite softer than expected first-quarter performance, the outlook for The Boeing Company continues bright. Sales were off 5 percent in the first three months to \$6.09 billion from \$6.44 billion in the 1990 quarter holding profits to \$309 million, or 90 cents a share, compared with \$302 million, or 87 cents a share, a year before. Operating losses continued in the defense and space portions of the business with lower deliveries of 747s and greater research expenses on the 777 program impacting commercial operations. A rebound is expected in the second quarter.

Meanwhile, Boeing's impressive 1,800-plane backlog remains intact. Production of the mid-sized 757 is being increased from 7 planes to 8.5 planes a month next year. Plans are also in the works for possibly boosting both the 747 and 767 models produced at Everett from 5 planes to 7 planes a month. And the 737 is already undergoing an output hike from 17 planes to 21 planes a month during the course of this year.

Everett Home Base Gels

The Navy has officially named the exact configuration for the home port at Everett: an aircraft carrier, four destroyers, and two frigates. The number is half the force initially envisioned owing to general military cutbacks all along the line. But the action reaffirmed the Navy's intent to complete the \$272 million base with ship arrivals sometime between 1993 and 1995. Direct employment is projected at 5,800 military and 1,400 civilians.

Paccar Is Picking Up

Devastated by the national recession, Paccar is beginning to see a "light at the end of the tunnel." Truck sales suffered one the deepest slumps in a decade over the past year. But demand has recently rebounded. As a result, the Bellevue-based truck manufacturer will call back some 350 workers laid off since last fall thereby boosting employment at the Kenworth plant in Seattle to the 1,000-worker level present before the layoffs began. Production has moved up from 11

trucks to 15 trucks a day. That level, however, is still well below the 32 trucks a day produced at the peak in October.

And Down On The Farm

Washington wheat farmers lost 70 percent of the fall-planted crop to winterkill this year in one of the worst crop failures in recent history. Eastern Washington growers expect to harvest winter wheat on just 750,000 acres of the 2.2 million acres seeded last fall. Extremely cold temperatures followed very high winds which had blown away much of the insulating snow cover. Farmers reseeded into lower-yield spring wheat. But the total wheat crop will still likely be short by a third from last year at 100.7 million bushels. As much as 90 percent of the wheat crop in any one year is exported overseas predominately to Pacific Rim and Middle East markets.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Go Go GNP

The national economy, bolstered by a burst of consumer spending, showed signs of life again in the spring quarter for the first time since last summer. Real Gross National Product - the inflation-adjusted measure of output of all goods and services produced in the nation - moved up at a modest 0.4 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter following two consecutive quarters of decline. Although modest, the increase was hailed as hard evidence that the nation's first recession in eight years had ended. Significantly, consumer spending and housing construction led the upturn.

Two In A Row

Meanwhile, industrial production rose in May for the second month in a row. The Federal Reserve's index of factory output jumped 0.5 percent over the month - the biggest increase since last June just prior to the time the recession officially took hold. Some of the rise came from higher utility usage because of unusually warm weather elsewhere in the nation. But the key auto sector also posted a sizable jump for the second consecutive month. At the

same time, inventories continued to decline, thereby helping to ensure that any pickup in demand will translate directly into higher levels of manufacturing output.

Consumer's Are Back

May retail sales nationwide jumped strongly by 1 percent, giving further evidence that consumers are slowly coming back. Gains over the month were widespread across businesses: auto dealers sales were up 1.6 percent; sales at clothing stores climbed 2.4 percent; and furniture sales increased 1.5 percent. The growth in retail sales was a welcome sign that recovery has begun, given that personal consumption makes up fully two-thirds of GNP.

Barometer Points Positive

The future looks like more of the same. The government's index of *leading indicators* marked its fourth straight month of gain in May - the first such string of increases in two-and-a-half years. The barometer jumped 0.8 percent over the month after rising 0.4 percent in April and 0.9 percent in March. In addition, the index of *coincident* indicators (designed to measure current as opposed to future activity) rose in May for the first time in 11 months.

Consumer Price Index

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			Percent Change	
	May 91	Apr 91	May 90	Mar 91	Apr 90
U.S. City Average	135.6	135.2	129.2	0.3%	5.0%
Seattle†	Jul-Dec 1990	Jul-Dec 1989		Jul-Dec 1990	
	129.4	119.6		8.2%	

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Prepared by Dennis Fusco, Chief Economist

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work¹

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	May		Apr		Numeric Change	
	1991 (Prel)	1991 (Rev)	1990 (Rev)	1990 (Rev)	Apr 1991 to May 1991	May 1990 to May 1991
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	2,195.6	2,182.4	2,155.1	2,127.1	13.2	40.5
Manufacturing	364.7	363.6	369.8	367.6	1.1	-5.1
Durable Goods	255.8	255.4	261.6	261.0	0.4	-5.8
Lumber & Wood Products	38.6	38.3	40.9	40.0	0.3	-2.3
Logging	9.5	9.4	10.0	9.4	0.1	-0.5
Sawmills & Plywood	25.3	25.1	27.1	27.0	0.2	-1.8
Furniture & Fixtures	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.1	0.1
Stone, Clay, & Glass	7.7	7.6	8.0	7.8	0.1	-0.3
Primary Metals	12.4	12.4	13.2	13.1	0.0	-0.8
Aluminum	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	0.0	-0.1
Fabricated Metals	12.4	12.3	12.2	11.9	0.1	0.2
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	20.0	19.9	20.3	20.1	0.1	-0.3
Computer & Office Equipment	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.1	0.1	0.3
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	11.6	11.7	11.3	11.4	-0.1	0.3
Transportation Equipment	129.0	129.0	130.9	131.9	0.0	-1.9
Aircraft & Parts	116.3	116.3	116.1	116.7	0.0	0.2
Instruments & Related	13.6	13.7	14.8	14.8	-0.1	-1.2
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.4	6.5	6.0	6.0	-0.1	0.4
Nondurable Goods	108.9	108.2	108.2	106.6	0.7	0.7
Food & Kindred Products	37.9	37.1	37.6	36.7	0.8	0.3
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	13.2	12.5	13.5	13.1	0.7	-0.3
Textiles, Apparel, & Leather	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	0.0	0.1
Paper & Allied Products	17.7	17.9	18.1	18.0	-0.2	-0.4
Printing & Publishing	22.7	22.6	22.5	22.3	0.1	0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	13.6	13.6	13.2	13.0	0.0	0.4
Petroleum, Coal, & Plastics	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.8	0.0	0.1
Mining & Quarrying	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	0.1	0.0
Construction	119.2	117.6	118.4	113.7	1.6	0.8
General Building Contractors	34.1	33.7	35.4	34.2	0.4	-1.3
Heavy Construction, except Buildings	17.8	16.9	17.2	15.9	0.9	0.6
Special Trade Contractors	67.4	66.9	65.8	63.6	0.5	1.6
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	115.7	114.5	112.7	110.9	1.2	3.0
Transportation	80.4	79.6	78.2	76.5	0.8	2.2
Trucking & Warehousing	33.1	32.7	30.9	30.2	0.4	2.2
Water Transportation	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.1	0.1	0.0
Transportation by Air	15.6	15.4	15.8	15.6	0.2	-0.2
Communications	25.3	25.1	25.0	25.0	0.2	0.3
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	10.0	9.8	9.5	9.4	0.2	0.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	520.8	517.4	519.4	510.8	3.4	1.4
Wholesale Trade	129.7	129.3	128.3	126.9	0.4	1.4
Retail Trade	391.1	388.1	391.1	383.9	3.0	0.0
General Merchandise	35.5	35.5	38.1	38.0	0.0	-2.6
Food Stores	65.6	64.6	64.0	62.9	1.0	1.6
Eating & Drinking	146.5	145.3	144.2	140.7	1.2	2.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	118.5	118.0	116.5	115.5	0.5	2.0
Finance	50.8	50.9	51.4	51.3	-0.1	-0.6
Services	532.1	530.5	509.6	504.2	1.6	22.5
Hotels & Lodging	26.4	25.7	25.6	24.5	0.7	0.8
Personal Services	21.9	22.4	21.2	21.8	-0.5	0.7
Business Services	88.3	87.6	85.4	83.2	0.7	2.9
Health Services	155.7	155.3	147.0	145.9	0.4	8.7
Educational Services	24.7	25.3	23.8	24.1	-0.6	0.9
Social Services	36.7	36.4	34.2	33.5	0.3	2.5
Engineering & Management Services	47.5	47.8	45.6	45.7	-0.3	1.9
Government	420.9	417.2	405.0	400.7	3.7	15.9
Federal	72.6	72.2	77.1	75.2	0.4	-4.5
State	122.5	122.8	116.4	116.2	-0.3	6.1
State Education	64.0	64.6	62.1	62.2	-0.6	1.9
Local	225.8	222.2	211.5	209.3	3.6	14.3
Local Education	123.8	121.7	114.5	114.1	2.1	9.3
Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 7/3/91
Benchmark: 1990

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

May 1991 Preliminary†

April 1991 Revised†

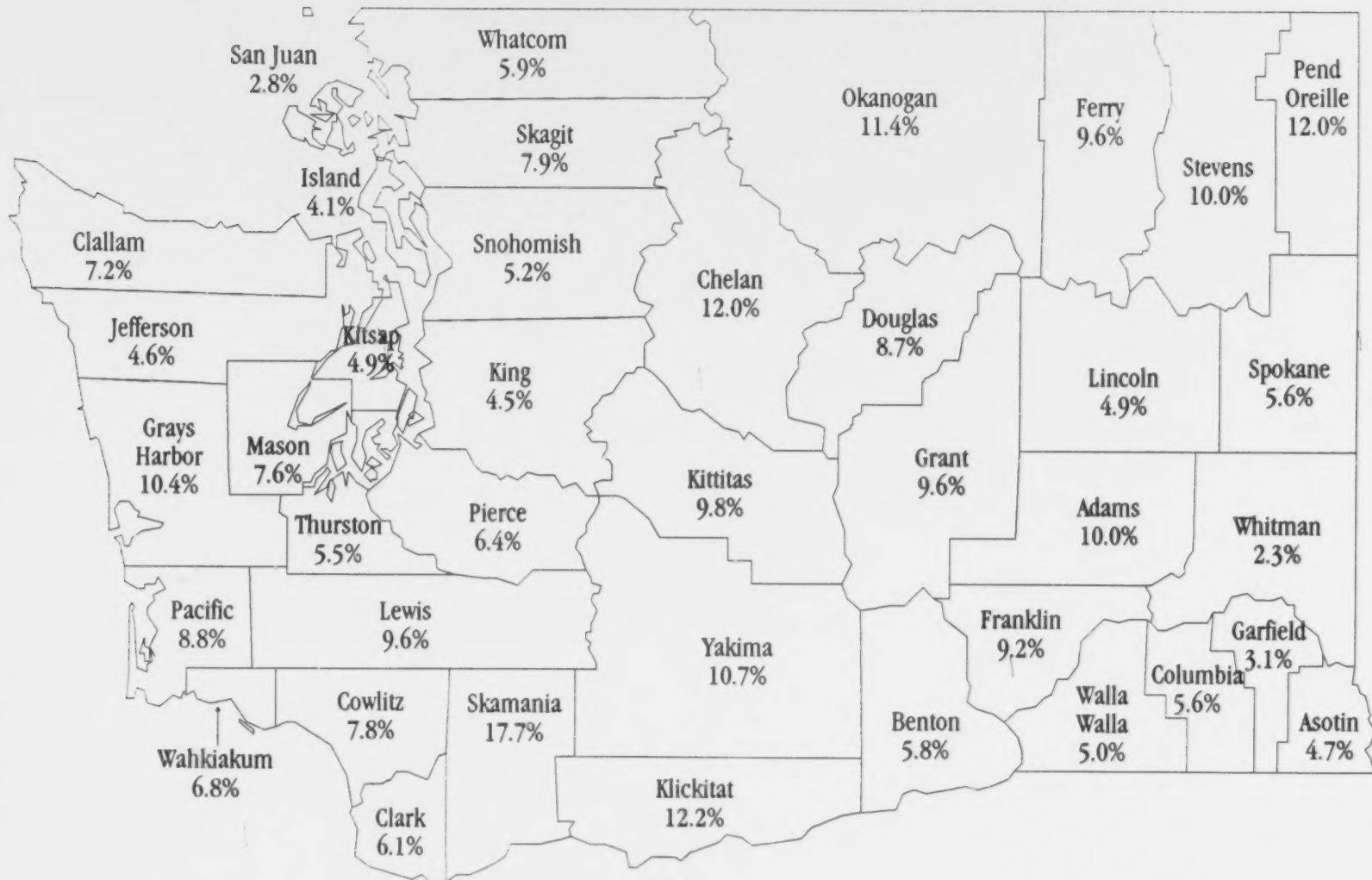
May 1990 Revised†

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total	2,490,900	2,343,800	147,100	5.9	2,501,100	2,342,300	158,800	6.3	2,495,900	2,383,400	112,500	4.5
Bellingham MSA	67,700	63,700	4,000	5.9	68,300	64,100	4,200	6.1	69,100	66,100	3,000	4.3
Bremerton MSA	83,100	79,000	4,100	4.9	83,700	79,600	4,100	4.9	83,000	79,600	3,400	4.1
Olympia MSA	83,100	78,500	4,600	5.5	84,500	79,700	4,800	5.7	83,300	79,400	3,900	4.7
Seattle PMSA	1,122,300	1,070,200	52,100	4.6	1,123,900	1,068,600	55,300	4.9	1,117,600	1,080,700	36,900	3.3
King County‡	885,100	845,500	39,600	4.5	885,800	844,300	41,500	4.7	882,400	853,900	28,500	3.2
Snohomish County‡	237,000	224,600	12,400	5.2	238,100	224,300	13,800	5.8	235,300	226,900	8,400	3.6
Spokane MSA	171,500	161,900	9,600	5.6	171,300	161,400	9,900	5.8	171,800	163,200	8,600	5.0
Tacoma PMSA	246,700	230,900	15,800	6.4	250,400	233,800	16,600	6.6	253,900	242,200	11,700	4.6
Tri-Cities MSA	77,900	72,800	5,100	6.5	76,700	71,100	5,600	7.3	77,500	73,300	4,200	5.4
Benton County‡	60,500	57,000	3,500	5.8	59,200	55,700	3,500	5.9	60,500	57,400	3,100	5.1
Franklin County‡	17,400	15,800	1,600	9.2	17,700	15,500	2,200	12.4	17,000	15,900	1,100	6.5
Vancouver PMSA	128,400	120,600	7,800	6.1	129,300	121,100	8,200	6.3	128,200	122,400	5,800	4.5
Yakima MSA	99,200	88,600	10,600	10.7	99,200	86,500	12,700	12.8	100,300	91,500	8,800	8.8
Adams	8,000	7,200	800	10.0	7,890	6,970	920	11.7	7,780	6,790	990	12.7
Asotin	9,730	9,270	460	4.7	9,560	9,040	520	5.4	9,730	9,340	390	4.0
Clallam	24,170	22,420	1,750	7.2	24,260	22,360	1,900	7.8	24,650	23,280	1,370	5.6
Columbia	2,490	2,350	140	5.6	2,180	1,910	270	12.4	2,720	2,600	120	4.4
Cowlitz	38,130	35,170	2,960	7.8	38,510	35,500	3,010	7.8	38,780	36,380	2,400	6.2
Ferry	3,230	2,920	310	9.6	3,330	2,890	440	13.2	3,280	3,010	270	8.2
Garfield	970	940	30	3.1	950	910	40	4.2	1,020	990	30	2.9
Grant	28,050	25,360	2,690	9.6	27,800	25,110	2,690	9.7	27,880	25,770	2,110	7.6
Grays Harbor	26,350	23,620	2,730	10.4	26,920	23,970	2,950	11.0	26,170	24,090	2,080	7.9
Island	21,960	21,060	900	4.1	21,690	20,710	980	4.5	21,640	20,920	720	3.3
Jefferson	8,820	8,410	410	4.6	9,010	8,500	510	5.7	9,110	8,760	350	3.8
Kittitas	12,480	11,260	1,220	9.8	12,700	11,240	1,460	11.5	11,950	11,190	760	6.4
Klickitat	7,950	6,980	970	12.2	7,920	6,800	1,120	14.1	7,810	6,980	830	10.6
Lewis	24,150	21,830	2,320	9.6	24,900	22,090	2,810	11.3	25,710	24,020	1,690	6.6
Lincoln	4,270	4,060	210	4.9	4,180	3,970	210	5.0	4,540	4,400	140	3.1
Mason	15,080	13,930	1,150	7.6	15,270	14,030	1,240	8.1	14,330	13,530	800	5.6
Okanogan	17,420	15,440	1,980	11.4	17,420	15,050	2,370	13.6	16,780	15,230	1,550	9.2
Pacific	7,520	6,860	660	8.8	7,630	6,880	750	9.8	7,660	7,160	500	6.5
Pend Oreille	3,170	2,790	380	12.0	3,270	2,750	520	15.9	3,380	2,990	390	11.5
San Juan	6,170	6,000	170	2.8	5,980	5,780	200	3.3	6,360	6,230	130	2.0
Skagit	40,520	37,310	3,210	7.9	40,910	37,670	3,240	7.9	39,950	37,620	2,330	5.8
Skamania	2,260	1,860	400	17.7	2,180	1,790	390	17.9	2,190	1,900	290	13.2
Stevens	11,670	10,500	1,170	10.0	11,810	10,380	1,430	12.1	11,520	10,570	950	8.2
Wahkiakum	1,170	1,090	80	6.8	1,210	1,120	90	7.4	1,190	1,120	70	5.9
Walla Walla	23,920	22,720	1,200	5.0	24,050	22,110	1,940	8.1	23,950	23,050	900	3.8
Wenatchee Labor Area	42,760	38,080	4,680	10.9	42,940	38,050	4,890	11.4	41,540	37,930	3,610	8.7
Chelan County‡	28,700	25,250	3,450	12.0	28,830	25,230	3,600	12.5	27,720	25,140	2,580	9.3
Douglas County‡	14,070	12,840	1,230	8.7	14,120	12,850	1,290	9.1	13,810	12,780	1,030	7.5
Whitman	18,660	18,230	430	2.3	19,150	18,700	450	2.3	19,500	19,050	450	2.3

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.

Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

May 1991 Unemployment Rates **State of Washington = 5.9%**



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary May Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		May 91	Apr 91	May 90	May 91	Apr 91	May 90	May 91	Apr 91	May 90
Total Manufacturing Industries¹	214,106	\$535.06	\$524.26	\$513.95	39.9	39.3	40.5	\$13.41	\$13.34	\$12.69
Selected Manufacturing Industries										
Lumber and Wood Products	31,751	\$468.05	\$454.72	\$442.09	39.8	39.2	39.9	\$11.76	\$11.60	\$11.08
Primary Metal Industries	9,875	\$602.43	\$595.78	\$567.60	43.0	42.8	43.0	\$14.01	\$13.92	\$13.20
Fabricated Metal Products	9,996	\$537.66	\$522.45	\$512.05	41.2	39.7	41.8	\$13.05	\$13.16	\$12.25
Machinery	19,635	\$435.60	\$434.51	\$435.74	39.6	38.9	40.8	\$11.00	\$11.17	\$10.68
Food and Kindred Products	26,672	\$378.48	\$365.19	\$364.94	38.0	37.0	38.7	\$9.96	\$9.87	\$9.43
Chemical and Allied Products	4,684	\$698.75	\$692.55	\$658.67	42.4	42.1	41.9	\$16.48	\$16.45	\$15.72
Transportation Equipment	57,466	\$679.78	\$669.47	\$652.13	41.0	40.5	42.1	\$16.58	\$16.53	\$15.49
Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries										
Construction	89,558	\$666.38	\$657.86	\$656.85	37.5	37.0	38.3	\$17.77	\$17.78	\$17.15
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	461,757	\$284.90	\$287.67	\$278.14	30.7	30.8	30.7	\$9.28	\$9.34	\$9.06

¹Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

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